

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
Senate Bill No. 111 By Senator Nevers

June 22, 2011

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 111 by Senator Nevers, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That House Committee Amendment No. 1 proposed by the House Committee on Education and adopted by the House of Representatives on June 16, 2011 be rejected.
2. That the following amendments to the engrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, between "R.S. 17:22(7)" and the comma "," insert "and to enact R.S. 42:1124.2(A)(5)"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 6, between "report;" and "and to" insert "to provide relative to the Recovery School District; to provide that the superintendent of the Recovery School District shall be subject to certain financial disclosure requirements;"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, after line 15, insert the following:

"Section 2. R.S. 42:1124.2(A)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1124.2. Financial disclosure; certain elected officials; members of certain boards and commissions; ethics administrator

A. Each of the following, except a person who is required to file a financial statement pursuant to R.S. 42:1124, shall annually file a financial statement as provided in this Section:

* * *

(5) The superintendent of the Recovery School District.

* * *"

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Ben Nevers

Representative Austin Badon

Senator Edwin R. Murray

Representative John Bel Edwards

Senator Julie Quinn

Representative Stephen F. Carter

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne Johnston.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senate Bill No. 111 by Senator Nevers

Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

SCHOOLS. Provides relative to certain reporting and financial disclosure requirements. (8/15/11)

Report adopts House amendments to:

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Moved the required annual reporting date from March 15th to February 15th.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Provides that the superintendent of the RSD is subject to Tier 2 financial disclosure requirements as provided in the Code of Governmental Ethics (R.S. 42:1124.2).

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law requires the state superintendent of education to make an annual report to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), the governor, and the legislature on the condition and progress of and improvements needed in public elementary and secondary schools. Requires that the report contain:

1. A complete financial report on the receipts and expenditures of the department and schools.
2. Data concerning faculty, enrollment, graduates, courses of study, and any other information required to show the condition, progress, and needs of schools.
3. An abstract of the reports of the parish superintendents to the state superintendent, and other facts and statistics of interest to public schools.
4. Other information necessary for purposes of present law.

Present law requires the state superintendent to have copies of the report printed for distribution to BESE, the governor, the legislature, state officials, parish school boards, libraries, and the superintendents of schools of other states and territories.

Proposed law retains present law and adds the requirement that the report be submitted to the specified recipients not later than March 15th of each year. Changes the term "parish" as it relates to school boards and superintendents to the more inclusive term "city, parish, and other local public".

Present law (R.S. 42:1124.2) provides that each of the following persons, except a person who is required to file a financial statement pursuant to R.S. 42:1124, "Tier 1", must annually file a financial statement with the Board of Ethics as provided in present law relative to "Tier 2" reporting requirements:

- (1) Each member of the state legislature.

- (2) Each person holding a public office who represents a voting district with a population of 5,000 or more persons.
- (3) Each member of the Board of Ethics and the ethics administrator.
- (4) Each member of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally provides that the superintendent of the Recovery School District must also file the "Tier 2" financial disclosure report required by present law.

Effective August 15, 2011.

(Amends R.S. 17:22(7); adds R.S. 42:1124.2(A)(5))